

must compete on the basis of its strengths. Throughout the 20th century, one of these strengths was our knowledge-based resources—particularly science and technology. But the scientific and technological foundations of our economic leadership are eroding at a time when many other nations are building their innovative capacity.

This nation's trade balance in high-technology goods swung from a positive flow of \$33 billion in 1990 to a negative flow of \$24 billion in 2003. Two years from now, for the first time ever, the most capable high-energy particle accelerator in the world will be outside the United States. Low-wage employers in this country, such as McDonald's and Wal-Mart, create many more jobs than do high-wage employers. In 2001 U.S. industry spent more on tort litigation and related costs than on research and development.

Today, high-technology firms have to be on the leading edge of scientific and technological progress to survive. Intel Corp. Chairman Craig Barrett has said that 90 percent of the products his company delivers on the final day of each year did not exist on the first day of the same year. To succeed in that kind of marketplace, U.S. firms need employees who are flexible, knowledgeable, and scientifically and mathematically literate.

But the U.S. educational system is failing in precisely those areas that underpin our competitiveness: science, engineering and mathematics. In a recent international test involving mathematical understanding, U.S. students finished 27th among the participating nations. In China and Japan, 59 percent and 66 percent, respectively, of undergraduates receive their degrees in science and engineering, compared with 32 percent in the United States.

I've recently had an opportunity to review these trends as chairman of a 20-member committee created by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine. Congress asked the committee to examine the threats to America's future prosperity. The panel was a diverse group that included university presidents, Nobel laureates, heads of companies and former government officials. We agreed unanimously that the United States faces a serious and intensifying economic challenge from abroad—and that we appear to be on a losing path.

Our committee emphasized that the United States needs to focus on fundamentals. We recommended the recruitment of 10,000 new science and math teachers each year through the awarding of competitive scholarships. The skills of a quarter-million current teachers should be improved through enhanced training and education. We recommended establishing 25,000 competitive science, mathematics, engineering and technology undergraduate scholarships and 5,000 graduate fellowships.

To boost scientific and technological innovation, we recommended that the U.S. government increase research funding by 10 percent annually over the next several years, with primary attention devoted to the physical sciences, engineering, mathematics and information sciences. We urged the federal government to create an Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E), modeled after the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, which would support out-of-the-box, transformative research aimed at ending our crippling dependence on foreign sources of energy. We asked the government to provide permanent tax incentives for U.S.-based innovation.

The United States wants other nations to do well economically. Broadly based prosperity can make the world more stable and safer for all. What worries business leaders is

that the United States could easily fall behind as the rest of the world prospers.

WORLD DAY FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the International Child Abuse Network. This wonderful organization works worldwide to break the cycle of violence that leads abused children to grow up to become abusers.

The International Child Abuse Network, also known as Yes ICAN, is a leading global provider of information and resources to deal with child abuse. Yes ICAN believes that child abuse would cease to exist if everyone had the capability to receive accurate, up-to-date information about abuse. Yes ICAN provides assistance and support to survivors who are too afraid or wounded to utilize traditional community resources. Through online forums, victims can heal together in a confidential, mutually supportive atmosphere.

In an effort to bring more awareness to the effects of child abuse on societies around the world, every November 19th Yes ICAN recognizes the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse. This year's event featured a showcase of art and poetry submissions from schoolchildren. Participants and their teachers were honored during a reception at the Canoga Park Youth Arts Center in my district in California.

The International Child Abuse Network is making positive strides in the fight against child abuse. Their work to create a better future for all children is to be commended. I am proud to congratulate the International Child Abuse Network and thank them for their valuable contributions.

CONGRATULATING MR. DAVID L. BRANT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a dedicated law enforcement official at the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, David L. Brant, who is retiring after 28 years of service with NCIS.

Mr. Brant graduated with a master's degree in criminology from Indiana State University in 1975. He began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the Dade County Metropolitan Public Safety Department in Miami, Florida. In 1977, he accepted an offer from the Naval Investigative Service and began his service as a Special Agent assigned to NISRA Norfolk, VA on January 31, 1977. During his 4 years in the Norfolk area, Director Brant served in 4 different NIS offices and also completed an assignment as Special Agent Afloat aboard the USS *Independence*.

Following his assignment as a Special Agent Afloat, Director Brant transferred to the Philippines to become the Special Operations

Squad Leader from 1981–1983. He then was assigned to the Headquarters Training Division as the Executive Assistant to the Director, and then was the Special Agent in Charge at NISRA Mayport. He returned to the Philippines in 1989 to serve as the Deputy Regional Director for the NCIS Southeast Asia Region. In 1991 he returned to NCIS Headquarters and holding various positions until he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service and was selected as the Assistant Director for Counterintelligence. Mr. Brant served in that capacity until he succeeded Roy D. Nedrow as Director in May 1997.

Mr. Brant has been widely recognized within the Department of the Navy, the Department of Defense, and the Federal law enforcement community for his innovative and transformational approaches to enhancing law enforcement and counterintelligence capabilities. He led NCIS in developing and implementing operational strategies, established the Counterterrorism Directorate, and built the Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) to specifically enhance NCIS's ability to counter threats facing the Navy and Marine Corps.

During his career, Mr. Brant has been recognized as an outstanding leader by multiple organizations. His awards include the Department of Defense Presidential Rank Award and the Department of the Navy Distinguished Service Award. Additionally, in 2004 he was awarded the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA) Aguila Award for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the Outstanding Advocate for Women in Federal Law Enforcement Award from the Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE).

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate Mr. David L. Brant for his service to our country. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding his past accomplishments and wishing him and his wife, Merri Jo, and children Emily and Andrew, the best of luck in all future endeavors.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE THAT DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES IN IRAQ BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, in the other body, the junior member from Massachusetts delivered compelling remarks about Congressman MURTHA. I believe that it would be to the benefit of all of my colleagues to hear Senator KERRY's comments.

Yesterday, Jack Murtha, a respected congressman on military matters, and former Marine Drill Sergeant and decorated Vietnam veteran, spoke out on our policy in Iraq. He didn't come to that moment lightly. He spoke his mind and spoke his heart out of love for his country and support for our troops. I am not going to stand for a swift boat attack strategy against Jack Murtha.

It disgusts me that a bunch of guys who have never put on the uniform of their country venomously turn their guns on a marine who served his country heroically in Vietnam and has been serving heroically in Congress ever since.